



The Aeronautical Data Link: Decision Framework

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The Aeronautical Data Link: Decision Framework for Architectural Analysis

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The Aeronautical Data Link: Decision Framework

Objective

The future CNS/ATM system will rely on global satellite navigation, and ground-based and satellite based communications via Multi-Protocol Networks (e.g., combined Aeronautical Telecommunications Network (ATN)/Internet Protocol (IP)) to bring about needed improvements in efficiency and safety of operations to meet increasing levels of air traffic. This presentation will discuss specific approaches for mapping and transitioning between the levels of a practical multi-level decision framework that completely describes optimal data link architecture configuration and behavior.



The Aeronautical Data Link: Decision Framework

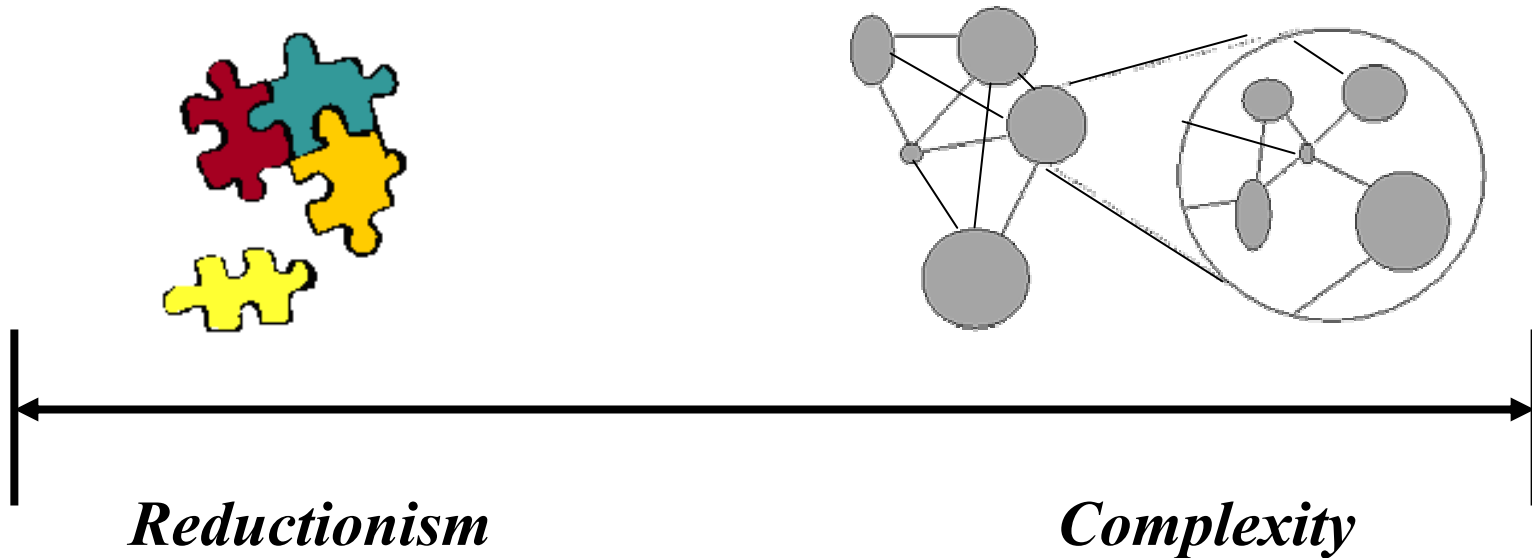
Agenda

- Background
 - Variability of Data Link Information Networks
 - The Data Link Decision Framework
- Application of Data Link Decision Framework
 - SATS HVO Example: Goal #1 (Instantiating Operational Concepts)
 - SATS HVO Example: Goal #2 (Required Data Link Capabilities)
 - SATS HVO Example: Goal #3 (Required System Performance)
 - SATS HVO Example: Goal #4 (Required Technology Performance)
- Conclusions



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Variability of Data Link Information Infrastructures



Reductionism is an approach to building and optimizing systems out of the description of subsystems that a system is composed of and ignoring the relationships between them.

- locally optimized architecture designs
- minimal to no interactions between subsystems
- impedes system-wide optimization

Complex systems is an approach that studies how parts of a system give rise to the collective behaviors of the system and how the system interacts with its environment.

- unified information infrastructures
- globally optimal decision-making
- increased complexity due to interactions between highly coupled dissimilar systems

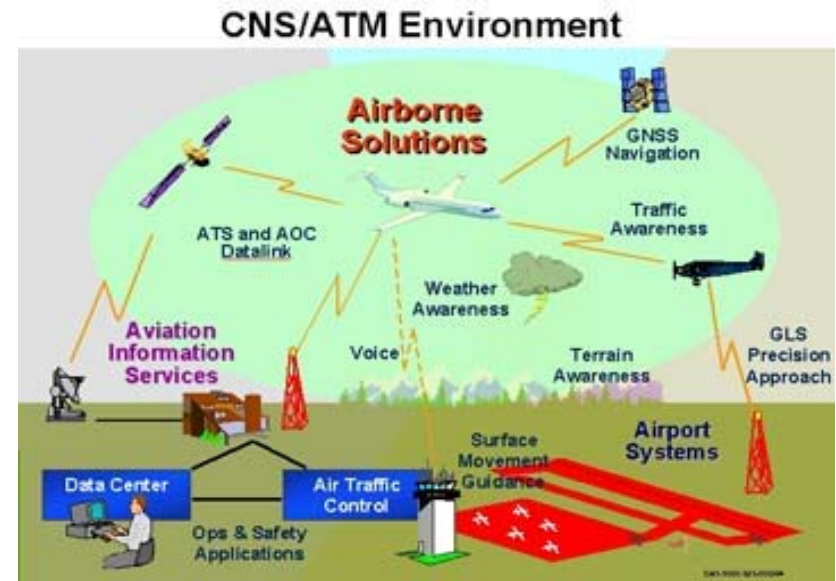


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Architecture Analysis Approach

The ATN is the complex, global network that will integrate CNS/ATM components. It's behavior is a response to both discrete-time events (digital flight control computers and clocked data links) and continuous-time events (flight operations). Designing and configuring data link systems that are ATN/IP compliant involves the simultaneous satisfaction of conflicting criteria related to operations requirements, system performance, technology capabilities, spectrum issues, data link services, etc.

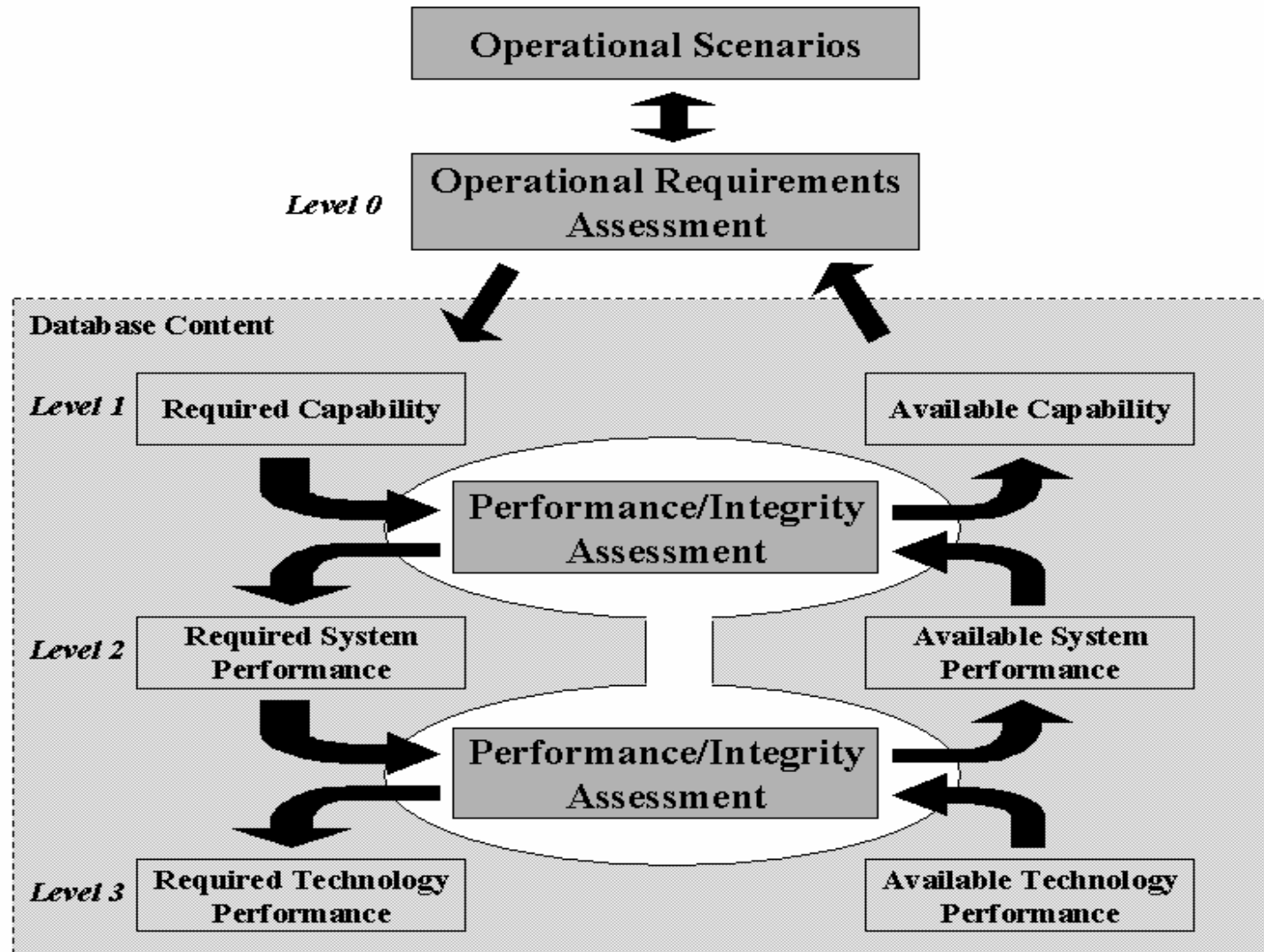
We propose the use of a multi-level decision framework that determines optimal system-wide data link architecture configuration and behavior. We demonstrate its feasibility by applying it to a SATS High Volume Operations (HVO) concept and explain the use of models and tools for transitioning between the levels.





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Data Link Decision Framework

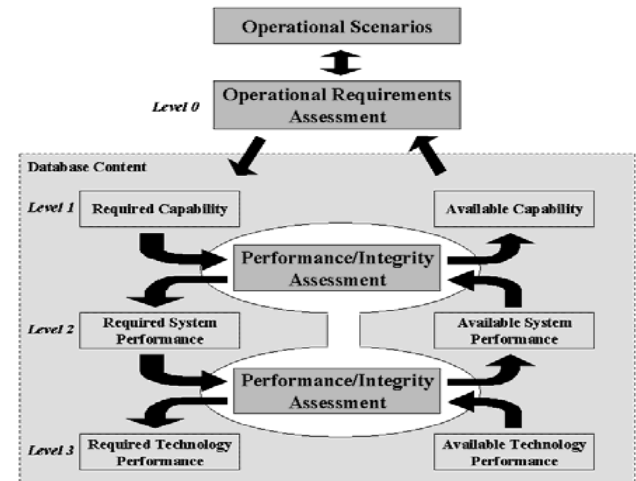




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Decision Framework

- The partitioned multi-level structure allows users with vastly different goals to operate in a consistent decision methodology
- The left-side permits top-down analysis (*required*), the right side permits bottom-up analysis (*available*)
- Allows the use of external modeling tools/techniques to guide decisions
- Data for each level is clustered in a multi-dimensional database
- **Level 0** > operational scenarios and functions (*conceptual level*)
- **Level 1** > informational capabilities (*capability level*)
- **Level 2** > data link services (*system level*)
- **Level 3** > technical requirements & DL technologies (*technology level*)
- Transition Tables convert/map information between Levels





The Aeronautical Data Link: Decision Framework

Data Link Taxonomy Information Organization

Operation Scenario

Highly Interactive, Information Centric Airspace Operations

Enroute
(non-remote)

Terminal Area &
Surface Ops

Enroute
(oceanic/remote)

Operational Functions Capability

Navigation
Performance

Traffic Conflict
Avoidance

Obstacle/Weather
Avoidance

Relevant Flight
Rules

Information Capability

Timeliness

Operational
Function Mapping

Integrity

Capacity

Accuracy

Data Link Service

Air Traffic Mgm't
Services Group

Navigation
Group

Surveillance
Group

Flight Information
Services Group

Airline Operational
& Administrative
Comm. Group

Technology Requirements

Network
Interoperability
Requirements

Performance
Requirements

Equipage
Requirements

Data Link Technologies

VDL Mode
1

VDL Mode
2

VDL Mode
3

VDL Mode
4

Mode
S

Experi-
mental

High
Frequency

SATCOM



The Aeronautical Data Link: Decision Framework

Application of Data Link Decision Framework

The Small Aircraft Transportation System (**SATS**) under development by NASA, FAA, and other authorities has developed a Concept of Operations (**CONOPS**) document that defines the 2010 SATS consisting of:

- Higher Volume Operation (**HVO**) at Non-Towered/Non-Radar Airports,
- Lower Landing Minimums and Minimally Equipped Landing Facilities,
- Increased Single-Pilot Crew Safety and Mission Reliability,
- Systems for Integrated Fleet Operations.

The SATS CONOPS **HVO** Operation Concept will be used as an Example...

The Example HVO Decision **Goals**: *(a Level 0 to Level 3 Top-Down process)*

Goal 1. Instantiate the Operational Concepts (Level 0),

Goal 2. Determine the capabilities required to support the operations (Level 1),

Goal 3. Determine the system performance requirements for a DL service (Level 2),

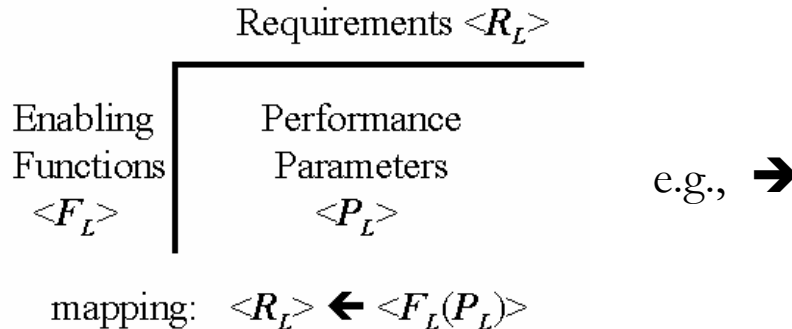
Goal 4. Determine the minimum technology performance requirements (Level 3).



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Format of Transition Tables

The Transition Table for each Level maps the *Performance Parameters (P)* of the *Enabling Functions (F)* to the *Requirements (R)* as follows:



Data Link Service Capability Requirements - Level 1						
Information Requirement	Required Data Link Capability					
	Aid to Visual Acq	Taxi	Approach	Leg 2	Leg 1	Transition to Terminal Area
Timeliness • Initial Acq(nm) • Alert Time	10 N/A	5 10 sec.	10 34 sec.	20 2.6 min.	40 2.6 min.	90 5 min.
Integrity • Availability • Nav. Integrity	95% 95%	99.9% 99.9%	99.9% 99.9%	99.9% 99.9%	95% 95%	95% 95%
Accuracy • RNP Pos. (nm) • RVP Vel. (m/s)	n/a n/a	GPS w/ SA .06	GPS w/ SA .06	4 .06	No Containment Overlap	No Containment Overlap
Information Elements (Msg's) (#blocks/#symbols)	7/28 7/28	7/28 7/28 6/9	7/28 7/28 6/9	7/28 7/28 6/9	7/28 7/28 6/9	7/28 7/28 6/9

Data link Information is transitioned (mapped) to the next level according to the relation



i.e., the *Requirements* of the current Level represent the *F* and *P* of the previous Level

$$\langle R_L \rangle \leftarrow \langle F_{L-1}(P_{L-1}) \rangle$$

where

L = Levels 1 to M-1, M=4

R_L = Requirements

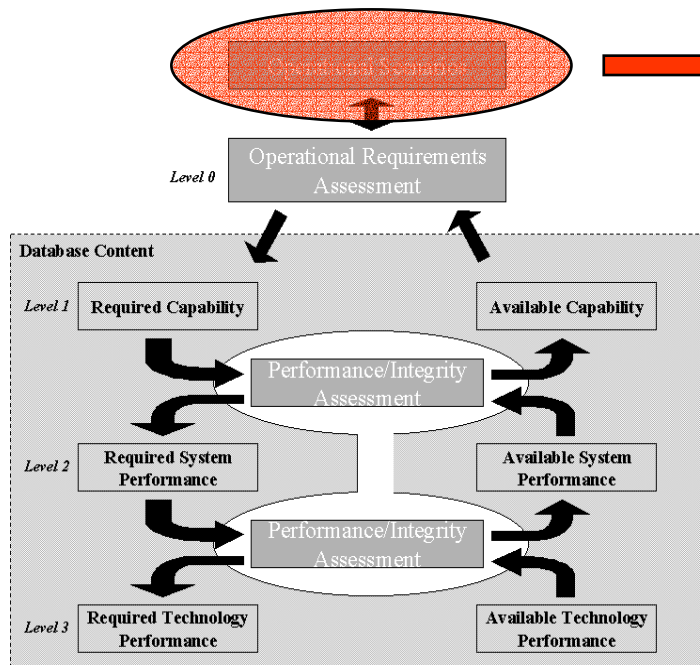
F_L = Enabling Functions

P_L = Performance Parameters



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SATS HVO Example: Goal #1 (Operational Concepts)



- Horizontal Labels = required operations
- Vertical Labels = functions necessary to complete the operations
- Matrix Elements = performance parameters required to execute the functions

2010
SATS
CONOPS
(HVO)

Supported Operations HVO Operational Requirements - Level 0

Operational Function	Required Operation						
	File HVO/IFR Flight Plan	Departure/Arrival Request	Departure/Arrival Assignment	Takeoff/Approach	Transition To/From ATC		
Traffic Density		# Aircraft	# Aircraft				
Op. Time Window							
Requested Nav. Parameters		Req'st Signa Dest. Pos. Time Pos./Vel.					
Assigned Nav. Parameters			Queue Pos. Time 1 st Leg Vel.				
Self-Sequencing				Traj. Intent	Traj. Intent		
Self-Separation				Req'd Nav. Perf. Acc'y. (nm, kts)			
Release To/From ATC					Sig. Acq. Range		



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SATS HVO Example: Goal #1 (Instantiated)

4 Aircraft Approach Scenario

Goal Programming model for HVO :

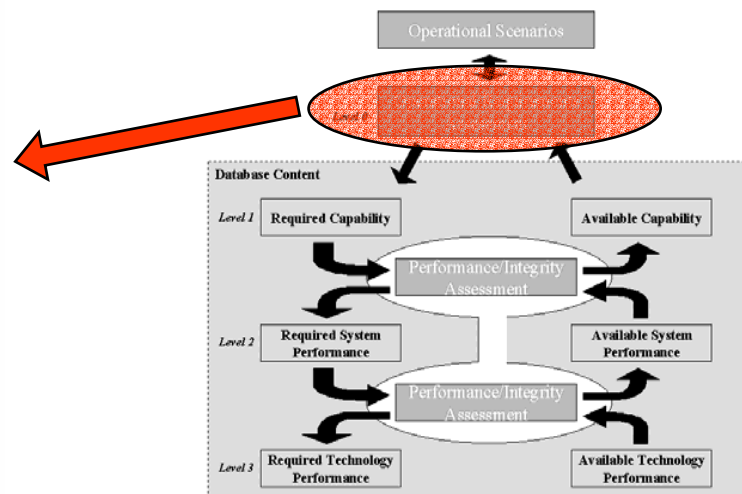
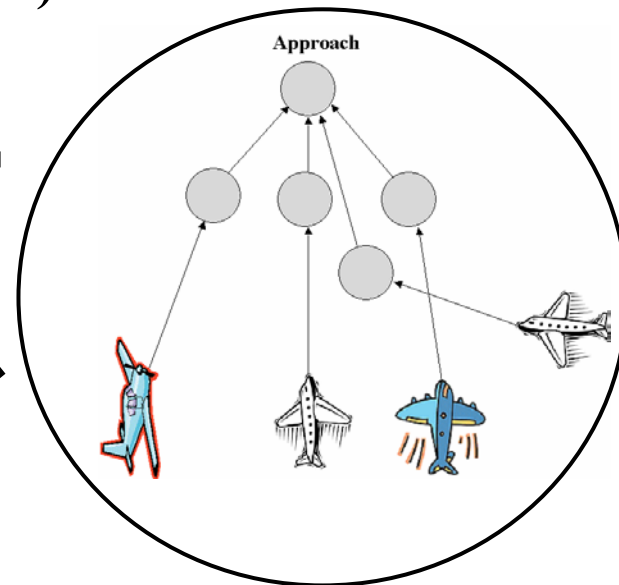
subject to:

$$\min Z = \sum_i \sum_j (d_{ij}^- + d_{ij}^+)$$
$$X_{ij-1} + \sum_k \left\{ \frac{1}{k} \sec \theta_{ij} (t_{ij} \pm (i-1)(\delta t_{ij})) V_{ijk-1} + \frac{1}{k} \sec \theta_{ij} (t_{ij} \pm (i-1)(\delta t_{ij})) V_{ijk} \right\} + d_{ij}^- - d_{ij}^+ = X_{ij}$$

Estimation of Level 0 Performance Parameters

Information Performance Requirements - Level 0

Performance Parameter	Operation Time Window	Operational Function																Release To/From ATC
		Requested Navigation Parameters				Assigned Navigation Parameters				Self Sequencing				Self Separation				
Aircraft #		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	
Initial Velocity (kts)	15 min	120	120	120	120													30 nm
Leg 1 Dist. (nm)		25	24	25	26													
Leg 1 Time (min)	15 min	12.5	11.9	12.5	13	12.5	11.9	12.5	13									
Leg 1 End Vel (kts)	15 min					120	120	120	120									
Leg 1 Vel Adj (kts)	15 min									0	0	0	0					
Leg 1 End Vel (kts)	15 min									120	120	120	120					
Leg 1 EPU (nm)	15 min													0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Leg 1 EVU (m/s)	15 min													0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Leg 2 Dist. (nm)		12.5	10	12.5	15.2													
Leg 2 Rel. Hdg. (°)		22.2	0.0	-22	31.3													
Leg 2 Time (min)	15 min	6.25	5	6.25	7.6	6.25	6.2	9.34	13.1									
Leg 2 Velocity (kts)	15 min					80.6	80.6	80.6	80.6									
Approach Vel. (kts)	15 min					80	80	80	80									
App Vel Adj (kts)	15 min									.12	0.08	0	-0.1					
Approach Vel. (kts)										80.1	80.1	80	79.9					
Leg 2 EPU (nm)	15 min													3.5	1.7	0	2.3	
Leg 2 EVU (m/s)	15 min													.06	.04	0	.05	





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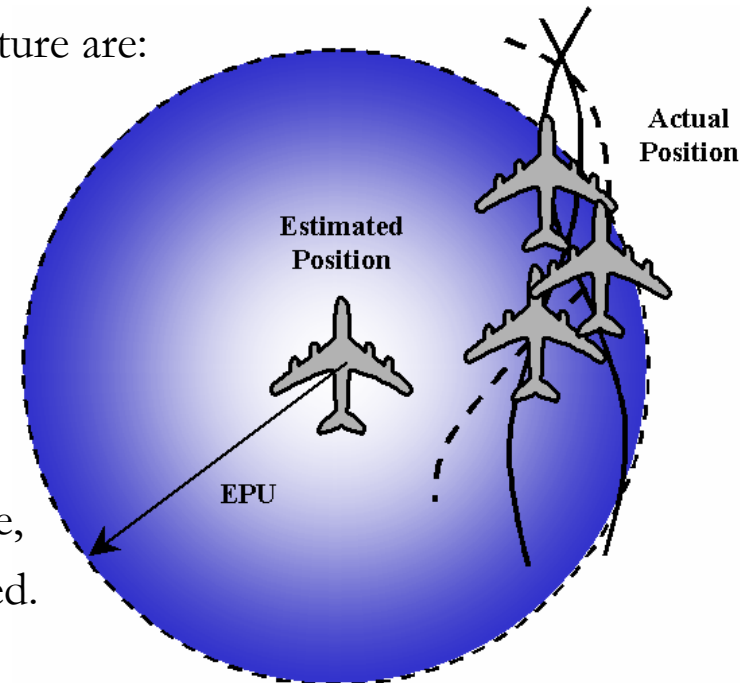
SATS HVO Example: Goal #2 (Required Capabilities)

The objective at this point is to develop a model that maps the operational functions (Level 0) to a set of required capabilities.

The *capabilities required* by the informational infrastructure are:

- **navigational accuracy** (*a function of position and velocity*)
- **timeliness** (*a function of initial acquisition and alert time*)
- **overall integrity** (*a function of availability and navigational integrity*)

In order to characterize navigational errors in the airspace and to provide bounds on aircraft separation and assurance, the **Estimate of Position Uncertainty (EPU)** will be used.



EPU = the radius of a circle centered on an estimated position such that the probability that the actual position lies in the circle is 95%



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Required Navigational Performance (RNP)

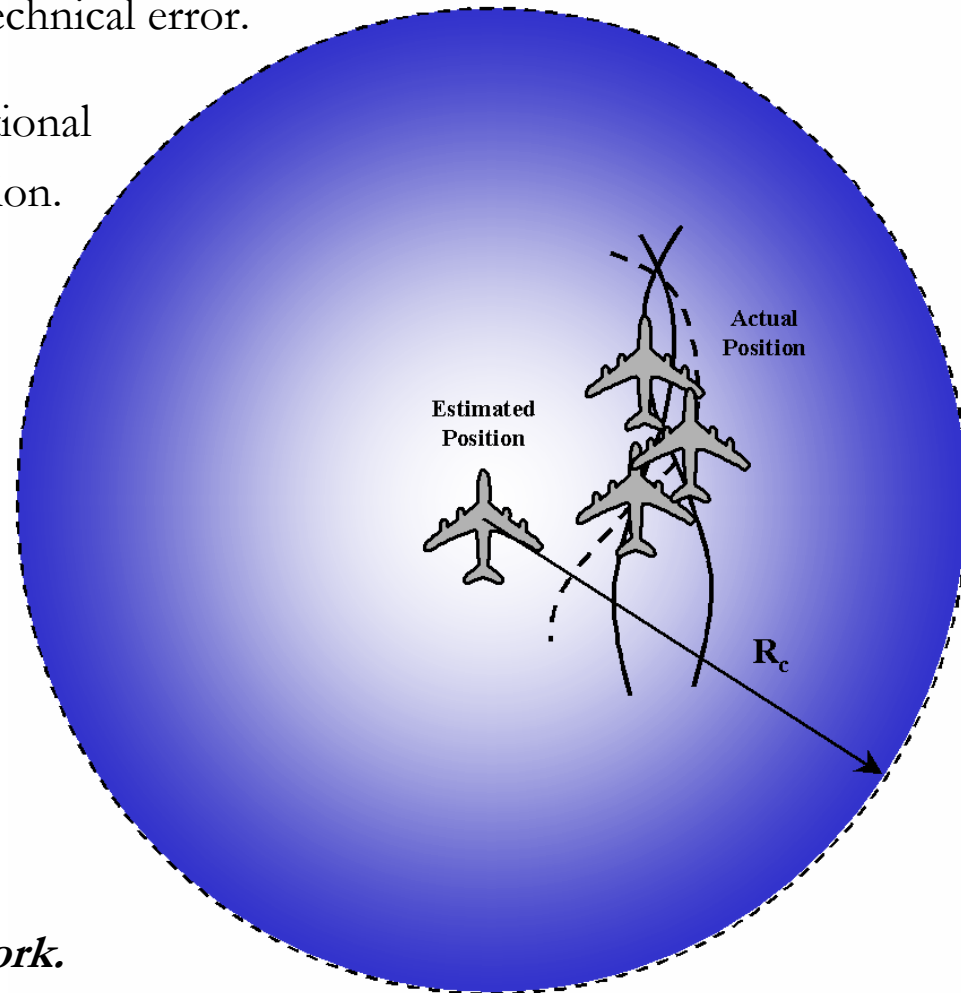
RNP is a measure of the navigational performance accuracy required of the population of aircraft operating within a defined airspace. It is comprised of navigational error, computational error, display error, course error, and flight technical error.

This example will only use horizontal navigational error to provide measures on aircraft separation.

The errors will be characterized by: **EPU**, **EVU**, and the Containment Radius (**R_c**)

R_c = the radius of a circle centered on an estimated position such that the probability that the actual position lies in the circle is 99.999%

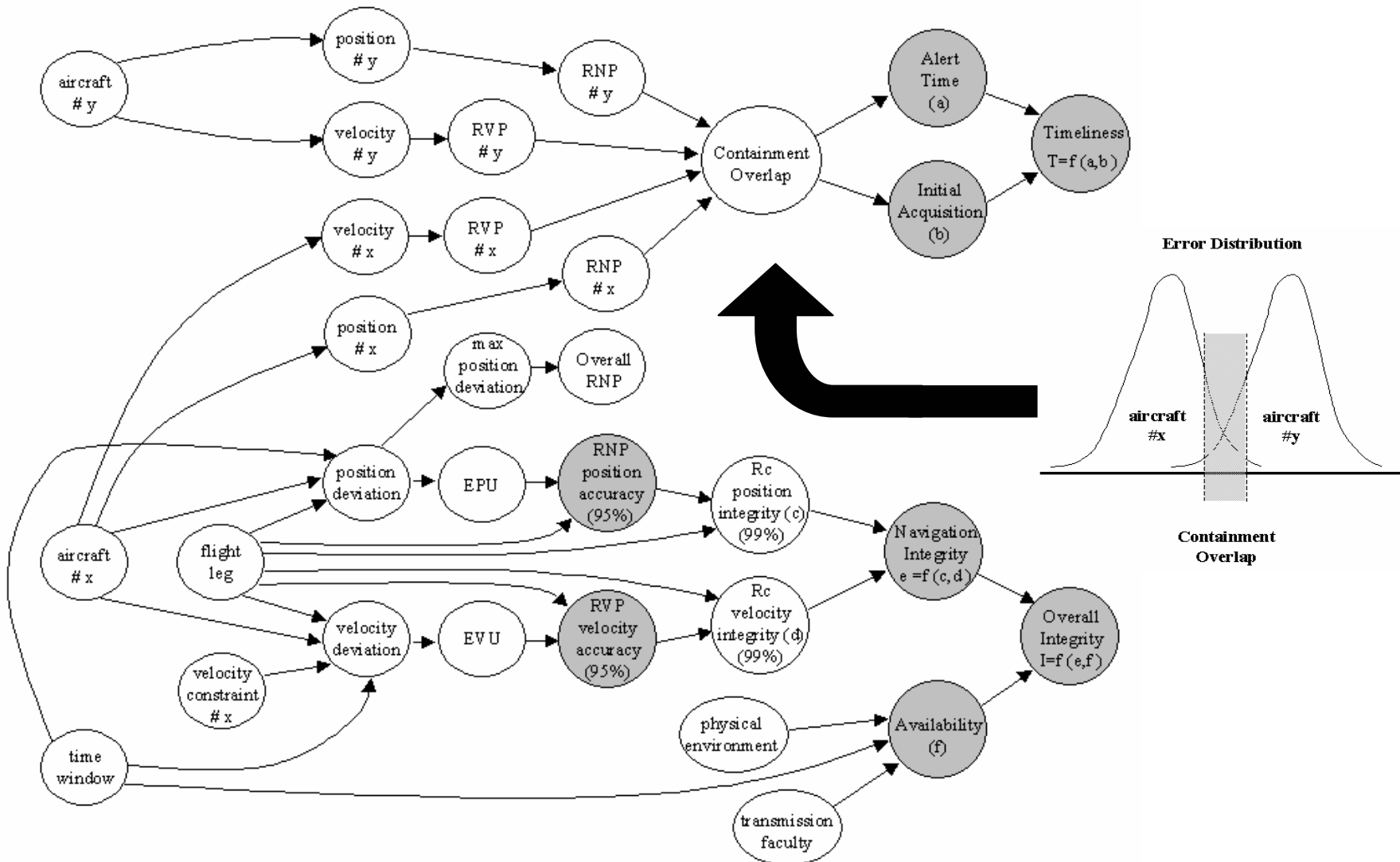
*Given these constraints, we were able to develop a model that mapped the Level 0 operational functions to the set of required capabilities using a tool called a **Bayesian Network**.*





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SATS HVO Example: Goal #2 (Bayesian Network Model)





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SATS HVO Example: Goal #2 (Capabilities Computed)

Level 0 Matrix

Estimation of Level 0 Performance Parameters
Information Performance Requirements - Level 0

Performance Parameter	Operation Time Window	Operational Function												Release To/From ATC				
		Requested Navigation Parameters				Assigned Navigation Parameters				Self Sequencing					Self Separation			
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4
Aircraft #																		
Initial Velocity (kts)	15 min	120	120	120	120													
Leg 1 Dist. (nm)	15 min	25	24	25	28													
Leg 1 Time (min)	15 min	12.5	11.9	12.5	13													
Leg 1 End Vel (kts)	15 min					120	120	120	120									
Leg 1 Vel Adj (kts)	15 min									0	0	0	0					
Leg 1 EPU (nm)	15 min									120	120	120	120					
Leg 1 EVU (nm)	15 min																	
Leg 2 Dist. (nm)	15 min	12.5	10	12.5	12													
Leg 2 Time (min)	15 min	22.5	20	22.5	21													
Leg 2 Vel Adj. (°)	15 min					80	680	680	680									
Leg 2 Time (min)	15 min	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.25	40	340	340	340									
Leg 2 Velocity (kts)	15 min					80	680	680	680									
Leg 2 Approach Vel (kts)	15 min					60	90	90	90									
Leg 2 App Vel Adj (kts)	15 min									12.0	0.8	0	-0.1					
Leg 2 EPU (nm)	15 min									80	80	1.9	78.9					
Leg 2 EVU (nm)	15 min													3.5	1.7	0	2.3	
														0.6	0.4	0	0.5	

Goal Programming model for HVO :

$$\min Z = \sum_i \sum_j (d_{ij}^- + d_{ij}^+)$$

subject to:

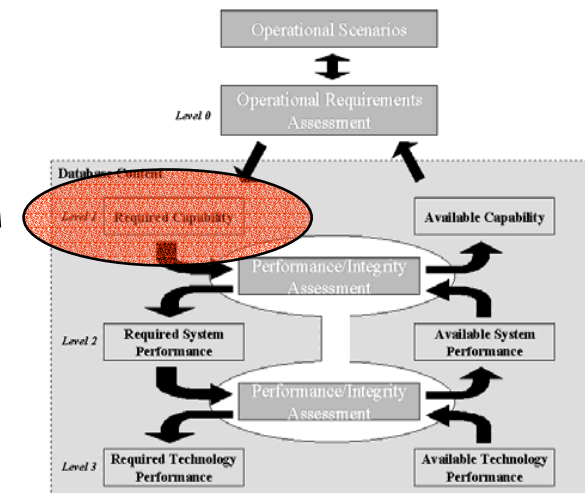
$$X_{ij-1} + \sum_k \left\{ \frac{1}{k} \sec \theta_{ij} (t_{ij} \pm (i-1)(\delta t_{ij})) \right\} V_{ijk-1} + \frac{1}{k} \sec \theta_{ij} (t_{ij} \pm (i-1)(\delta t_{ij})) V_{ijk} \} + d_{ij}^- - d_{ij}^+ = X_{ij}$$

Bayesian Network



Data Link Service Capability Requirements - Level 1

Information Requirement	Required Data Link Capability					
	Aid to Visual Acq.	Taxi	Approach	Leg 2	Leg 1	Transition to Terminal Area
Timeliness						
• Initial Acq(nm)	10	5	10	20	40	90
• Alert Time	N/A	10 sec.	34 sec.	2.6 min.	2.6 min.	5 min.
Integrity						
• Availability	95%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	95%	95%
• Nav. Integrity	95%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	95%	95%
Accuracy						
• RNP Pos. (nm)	n/a	GPS w/ SA .06	GPS w/ SA .06	4	No Containment Overlap	No Containment Overlap
• RVP Vel. (m/s)	n/a			.06		
Information Elements (Msg's) (#blocks/#symbols)						
• Current State	7/28	7/28	7/28	7/28	7/28	7/28
• Intended State	7/28	7/28	7/28	7/28	7/28	7/28
• Capability		6/9	6/9	6/9	6/9	6/9



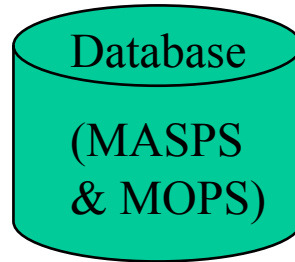


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SATS HVO Example: Goal #3 (Required System Performance)

Level 1 Matrix

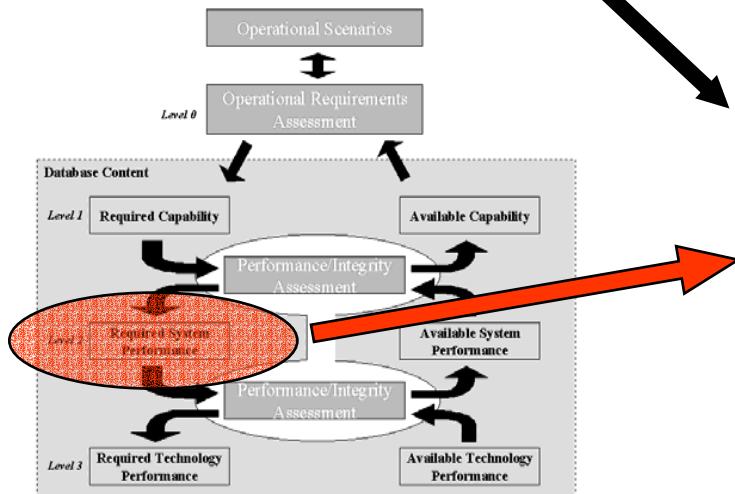
Data Link Service Capability Requirements - Level 1						
Information Requirement	Required Data Link Capability					
	Aid to Visual Acq	Taxi	Approach	Leg 2	Leg 1	Transition Terminal
Timeliness • Initial Acq(nm) • Alert Time	10 N/A	5 10 sec.	10 34 sec.	20 2.6 min.	40 2.6 min.	90 5 min.
Integrity • Availability • Nav. Integrity	95% 95%	99.9% 99.9%	99.9% 99.9%	99.9% 99.9%	95% 95%	95% 95%
Accuracy • RNP Pos. (nm) • RNP Vel. (kts)	n/a n/a	GPS w/ SA .05	GPS w/ SA .05	4 .05	No Containment Overlap	No Containment Overlap
Information Elements (Msg's) (#Blocks/#Symbols) • Current State • Intended State • Capability	728 728	728 69	728 69	728 69	728 69	728 69



- L1 maps DL capabilities to suitable DL services
- Select suitable DL service from Data Base
- Data Base returns Performance values for the Information Elements of the DL service that meets the required DL capabilities
- **ADS-B DL service is suitable for SATS HVO**

Data Link Application Performance Requirements - Level 2

Information Element	System Performance Requirements – A2 Equipage						
	Aid to Visual Acq.	Airport Surface	Simultaneous Approach	Conflict Avoidance	Separation Assurance & Sequencing	Flight Path Deconfliction Planning	
	Enroute-R Enroute-NR Terminal	Enroute-R Enroute-NR Terminal	Enroute-R Enroute-NR Terminal	Enroute-R Enroute-NR Terminal	Enroute-R Enroute-NR Terminal	Enroute-R Enroute-NR Terminal	
<u>State Vector</u>							
Accuracy (m-m/s)	200-n/a	2.5-0.3	20-0.3	20/50-.6/.75	20/50-.3/.75	200-5	
Update Rate	3s – 5s	1.5 s	1.5s	7 s	12 s	12 s	
Acquisition Range	10 nm	5 nm	10 nm	20 nm	40 nm	90 nm	
# Symbols	54	54	54	54	54	54	
<u>Mode Status</u>							
Update Rate	10 nm	5 nm	10 nm	20 nm	40 nm	90 nm	
Acquisition Range	47	47	47	47	47	47	
# Symbols	47	47	47	47	47	47	
<u>Air Ref. Velocity</u>							
Update Rate	n/a	n/a	5 s	7 s	12 s	12 s	
Acquisition Range	n/a	n/a	n/a	20 nm	40 nm	90 nm	
# Symbols	n/a	n/a	n/a	18	18	18	
<u>Target State/Chg</u>							
Update Rate	n/a	n/a	n/a	12 s	12 s	n/a	
Acquisition Range	n/a	n/a	n/a	20 nm	40 nm	90 nm	
# Symbols	n/a	n/a	n/a	84	84	84	





The Aeronautical Data Link: Decision Framework

SATS HVO Example: Goal #4 (Required Technology Performance)

Level 2 Matrix

Data Link Application Performance Requirements - Level 2									
Information Element	System Performance Requirements - A2 Equipage								
	Ad to Visual Acq	Ad to Visual Acq	Simultaneous Approach	Conflict Avoidance	Separation Assurance & Sequencing	Flight Path Deviation Planning	Flight Path Deviation Planning	Flight Path Deviation Planning	
	Terminal	Terminal	Terminal	Terminal	Terminal	Terminal	Terminal	Terminal	
State Vector									
Accuracy (m/n)	200/n/a	2.5/0.3	20/0.3	20/0.3	20/0.3	20/0.3	20/0.3	20/0.3	
Update Rate	3s - 5s	1.5 s	1.5 s	7 s	12 s	12 s	12 s	12 s	
Acquisition Range	10 nm	5 nm	10 nm	20 nm	40 nm	40 nm	40 nm	40 nm	
# Symbols	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	
Mode Status									
Update Rate									
Acquisition Range	10 nm	5 nm	10 nm	20 nm	40 nm	40 nm	40 nm	40 nm	
# Symbols	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	
Ad Ref. Velocity									
Update Rate	n/a	n/a	5 s	7 s	12 s	12 s	12 s	12 s	
Acquisition Range	n/a	n/a	n/a	20 nm	40 nm	40 nm	40 nm	40 nm	
# Symbols	n/a	n/a	n/a	18	18	18	18	18	
Target State/Chg									
Update Rate	n/a	n/a	n/a	12 s	12 s	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Acquisition Range	n/a	n/a	n/a	20 nm	40 nm	40 nm	40 nm	40 nm	
# Symbols	n/a	n/a	n/a	64	64	64	64	64	

Shannon's Information Capacity Equations

For PSK: $R_b = .5B \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{E_b}{N_o} \frac{R_b}{B} \right)$ where $1 + \frac{E_b}{N_o} \frac{R_b}{B} = M$

$$P_e = \text{erfc} \left(\sqrt{\frac{E_b}{N_o}} \sin \frac{\pi}{M} \right)$$

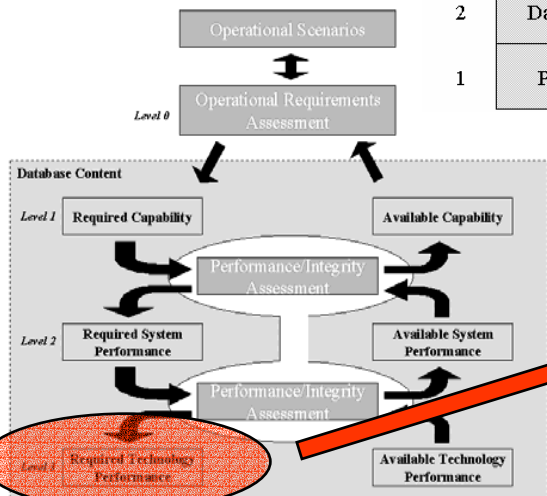
Lower OSI Layers

Layer Layer Name

3	Network
2	Data Link
1	Physical

Data Link Application Performance Requirements - Level 3

Technology Performance Requirements																					Physical Layer			
Layer 1 Elements	# Symbols (K) [203 x #A/C]				# Bits/Symbol (n) [log ₂ M]				Symbol Duration (T) [T _b /K]				Bit Duration (T _b) [T/log ₂ M]				Probability of Symbol Error (P _e) [10 ⁻³]							
	M				M				M				M				M							
	2	4	8	16	2	4	8	16	2	4	8	16	2	4	8	16	2	4	8	16				
Bit Rate (Kbits/s)																								
• 4 aircraft	.5	1	1.5	2																				
• 120 aircraft	17	33	50	67																				
BER (x 10 ⁻³)																	n/a	.07	.06	.053				
R _b /B (bits/s/hz)																	.5	1	1.5	2				
E _b /N _o (db)																	3.9	4.5	5.1	5.7				
B (Khz)																								
• 4 aircraft	1																							
• 120 aircraft	33																							





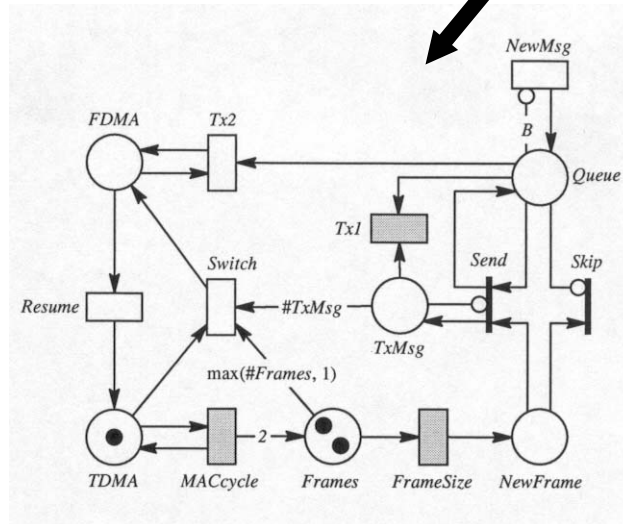
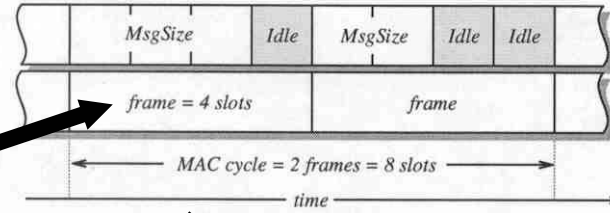
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SATS HVO Example: Goal #4 (Required Technology Performance)

Lower OSI Layers

Layer Layer Name Unit of Transmission

3	Network	Packet
2	Data Link	Frame
1	Physical	Bit



Measures	S1	S2
Pr{ using TDMA mode }	.7218	.5083
Pr{ using FDMA mode }	.2782	.4917
E{ utilization TDMA mode }	.3101	.2997
E{ utilization FDMA mode }	.9933	.9008
Pr{ full queue TDMA mode }	.0046	.0039
Pr{ full queue FDMA mode }	.1921	.0300
Pr{ full queue FDMA mode }	.0079	.0111
E{ # queued messages }	15.87	9.270



Conclusions

- A practical multi-level decision framework that completely describes optimal system-wide data link architecture configuration and behavior to meet multiple conflicting objectives of concurrent and different operations functions has been described. The decision analysis approach is premised on the development of a formal taxonomic classification of CNS/ATM systems, services, requirements and technologies.
- The decision framework was applied to a SATS High Volume Operations (HVO) concept application (4 Aircraft Approach Scenario) that demonstrated the feasibility of determining the minimum technology performance required to satisfy the SATS HVO Concept of Operations.
- We demonstrate the use of models (GP, etc.) and tools (Bayesian networks, etc.) for transitioning between the levels of the decision framework.